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Docket No.: SPRINGS

Group Art Unit: 3724

Examiner: S. Choi

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Kutchmarek et al.

Application No.: 09/245,596 V

Filed: February 5, 1999

For: CUTTING APPARATUS FOR WINDOW COVERINGS AND METHODS THEREFOR

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 1, 2001, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

In the Claims

(Amended) An apparatus for cutting a window covering including a head rail, a bottom rail and slats extending between the head rail and the bottom rail, said apparatus comprising:

a base having a substantially flat cutting surface;

a frame overlying said cutting surface and mounted to said base, said frame and said cutting surface defining a receiving area therebetween for receiving said window covering;

including a clamping assembly base said securing the bottom rail, the slats and the top rail window covering in a side-by-side arrangement atop said cutting surface so that the bottom rail, the slats and the top rail are in contact with the substantially flat cutting surface;